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PEONIES

for Spring Planting



Have I had any experience with the planting of Peonies in the Spring?—No.

Do I recommend Spring Planting of Peonies?—No.

Why then am I offering to sell Peonies in the Spring, when I do not know whether they will succeed or not?

Let me tell you.

Sample Peony Divisions



I spent all of May, June and July last year visiting the Iris and Peony gardens of France and England, and while visiting these gardens I purchased from one to one hundred roots of each variety of Iris which I thought should be grown in the United States. These roots did not arrive until very, very late, some of them being delayed until Christmas, and I confess I became panicky for fear I should not get them through the winter, in which case I would suffer severe loss, as the shipments contained the very highest priced Irises in the world as Swazi, Duke of Bedford, Moa, Cardinal, Glamour, Bruno, Dominion, Belisaire, Eclairer, Imperator, Jean Chevreau, Liberty, Le Grand Ferre, Salonque, Peau Rouge, Trouvaille, Madame Abel Chatenay, Madame Janiaurd, Asia, Tenebrae, Aphrodite, Lady Byng, Citronella, Menetrier, Lepinoux, and a hundred others which American Iris enthusiasts are anxious to obtain.

As these plants would have very little time to make any root growth to anchor themselves against the freezing and thawing period through which they would have to pass, I decided, first, that they must have the very best ground in my garden, and second, that they must be planted where they could be visited daily, if necessary, to see that no accidents happened to them.

Now it happened that the one spot in my garden which exactly filled these requirements was occupied with a three year old planting of standard varieties of Peonies, and my interest in the success of my new Irises was so great that I told my men to dig and label all the Peonies and get the ground in perfect condition for the new Irises. This has all been done and the Irises are now planted where the Peonies were located, and I am anxious for spring to come so I may see that the new Irises have passed safely through the winter.

After having the Peonies packed away in moss, I began

Tall Bearded Irises

At \$2.00



I am already receiving many letters asking if I will again offer surplus Irises this season. I had intended to withhold my offer of surplus Irises until after the blooming season when plants are dormant and when they are more easily shipped, but as there seems to be a great demand for Irises for spring planting, I will again offer to ship 100 unnamed Irises for \$2.00 to be forwarded by express, transportation charges to be paid by the purchaser. I will include several varieties in each shipment and I am sure that when they bloom in their new locations they will inspire in their owners a desire to increase their collections by the addition of the newer varieties.

\$2.00 per Hundred by Express—Charges to be

Paid by Purchaser.

LEE R. BONNEWITZ,

February 23, 1923.

Van Wert, Ohio.

P. S.: I can also furnish dwarf varieties at the same price.

to wonder what I should do with them, and my secretary suggested that I cut them up into **Bonnewitz Strong One-Eye Divisions** and offer them for planting very early in the season so that anyone interested in procuring high-priced and rare varieties, could, with the expenditure of a very small sum, have an opportunity to see exactly the size of roots which I send out, and at the same time have a chance to test out the advisability of early spring planting. I have taken his suggestion, and my men have divided the entire lot of roots and labeled them, and each root has, not only the one-eye which you would expect it to have, but like all **Bonnewitz Strong One-Eye Divisions**, it has an extra eye for good measure.

In order that as many persons as possible may have a chance to see the size of **Bonnewitz Strong One-Eye Divisions**, I will send a division parcel post, prepaid, to any address for 25 cents, and if anyone wishes to buy them in quantity I will send ten roots by express for \$2.00, the purchaser paying the transportation charges. However, I would much prefer to send a single division at 25 cents in order that one thousand or more different people may have an opportunity to learn what I mean when I say "**Bonnewitz Strong One-Eye Divisions**."

I really believe if these roots are planted in late February or early March, that they will bloom in the summer of 1924, although I have not had sufficient experience to justify me in promising that they will do so, and for my own information I expect to write each purchaser of these roots after the blooming season next year and ask the results of this spring planting. This information I will make public through my Garden Notes, and if the results are satisfactory, I will probably arrange to store roots of the rare varieties and offer them for spring planting.

If you take advantage of this offer, order immediately, keep the roots in the coldest place possible, and plant them just as soon as you can force a spade in the ground.

These divisions will consist of standard varieties plainly and correctly labeled, and I hope each purchaser will be pleased with the size and quality of the division as well as the variety I select for him.

Peony Prices for 1923

The practice of selling divisions of fine Peonies at prices corresponding to the size of the divisions has had a wonderful effect in widening the market for the sale of Peony roots, and instead of ruining the business, as some of the growers feared, it has had exactly the opposite effect of bringing such a multitude of new buyers into the market that the demand cannot be supplied, and consequently prices have been advanced and growers are getting better returns than under the old system.

The demand for such splendid varieties as Therese, Jeannot, Le Cygne, Georgiana Shaylor, Jubilee, Philippe Rivoire, La Fee, La France, E. B. Browning, Martha Bulloch, Lady Alexandra Duff, Kelway's Glorious, Mary W. Shaylor, Solange, Frances Shaylor, Laura Dessert, Loveliness, Madame Jules Dessert, Raoul Dessert, Souv. de Louis Bigot, Walter Faxon, Tamatbako, Tokio, Amanosode, Somme Ganoko, and many others has exceeded the supply, and it is very probable, that in order to keep from losing their entire stock of these varieties, the prices will have to be advanced in the growers' lists. It is my expectation that the new enthusiasts who are anxious to obtain fine varieties will increase the demand to such an extent that still higher prices will be seen in 1924 and 1925.

It is indeed fortunate that the great standard varieties were produced in such quantities in previous years that there is now enough stock of them in the world, that it will probably not be necessary to make an advance on them in the growers' lists.

LEE R. BONNEWITZ,

February 23, 1923.

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